

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/697,024

Examiner

Christopher R. Buchanan

Applicant(s)

LAMOUREUX ET AL.

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to pre-brief conference request filed November 16, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 12-27 and 29-33.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 10/1/02, 10/29/03
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Irah Donner on May 14, 2007.

Cancel claims 28, 44, 45, and 46.

In claim 12, delete lines 1-11.

In claim 29, change dependency from claim 28 to claim 12.

In claim 12, insert the following:

----- A networked commercial interaction management method, comprising the steps of:

assembling information into bundles, wherein each bundle comprises a data element, a data element reference and meta data describing the data element, wherein each data element remains resident on a node of a data owner in a network, wherein there is a plurality of versions of at least one of the bundles and wherein each of the plurality of versions is identified by a bundle version identifying signal,

periodically issuing bundle version identifying signals to the different nodes of the network, the bundle version identifying signals indicating changes to the data elements to the network nodes of accessors,

distributing the meta data and the data element reference from the bundles through the network, and

distributing copies of the data elements in the bundles assembled in the step of assembling from the network node of their respective data owners to the network nodes of accessors following selection of the data elements by the accessors using the meta data and the data element reference distributed through the network. -----

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 12-27 and 29-33 are allowed.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art, Bowman-Amuah (US 6,601,234 B1), teaches distributing information bundles from different ones of a first plurality of different networked users to different ones of a second plurality of different network users according to a machine-readable format that includes values for a plurality of content attribute descriptors, wherein it is stated that each data stream "includes an attribute descriptor defining elements of the data."

Bowman-Amuah lacks the teaching having a plurality of versions of at least one of the bundles, each of the plurality of versions being identified by a bundle version identifying signal, periodically issuing bundle version identifying signals to the different nodes of the network, the bundle version identifying signals indicating changes to the data elements to the network nodes of accessors, distributing copies of the data elements in the bundles assembled in the step of assembling from the network node of

their respective data owners to the network nodes of accessors following selection of the data elements by the accessors using the meta data and the data element reference distributed through the network.

The limitations lacking in the prior art, in combination with the other limitations clearly claimed for patent, are novel and unobvious.

Conclusion

3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."


4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher R. Buchanan whose telephone number is 571-272-8134. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. 9:00am - 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ryan Zeender can be reached on 571-272-6790. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

CB

 5/17/07
F. RYAN ZEENDER
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER